

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend the Abstract as follows:

Techniques for assigning a network address to a host are based on authentication for a physical connection between the host and an intermediate device. One approach involves receiving first data at the intermediate device from an authentication and authorization server in response to a request for authentication for the physical connection. The first data indicates at least some of authentication and authorization information. A configuration request message from the host is also received at the intermediate device. ~~The configuration request message is for discovering a logical network address for the host.~~ A second message is generated based on the configuration request message and the first data. ~~The second message and~~ is sent to a configuration server that provides the logical network address for the host. The configuration server ~~is then able to~~ provides the logical network address based on authorization and authentication information. The logical network address is thus based on the user, ~~as is desirable to determine accounting information for billing purposes, to provide a minimum quality of service (QoS) according to a contract with the user, or e.g.,~~ to limit access by the user to the Internet and other services.